

basic discussions there are numerous references to clinical situations.

A comprehensive presentation of operative techniques begins the second part of the book. This is followed by a detailed "when and what to do" section. Pre-operative care, anesthesia, and post-operative care are described in later chapters. The volume concludes with a discussion of general and individual post-operative complaints and their management.

An extensive bibliography follows each chapter and the index is complete and well detailed. An outstanding feature of the book are its illustrations. The anatomical and surgical drawings are excellent, and along with the fine X-ray reproductions add immeasurable value to the volume.

It must be assumed that the tedious task of translation from the original German was done faithfully. Despite the consistent use of American terms for instruments and drugs, a great deal of the terminology and phraseology has a definite European flavor. The general presentation of the material and the layout of the text will appear rather unusual to the average reader of American surgical texts. Once this difference in readability is resolved, all surgeons interested in the fascinating problems of diagnosis and management of biliarypancreatic pathology will find this a most useful complete reference volume with a Continental touch.

DAVID SACHS, M.D.

* * *

RHEUMATIC FEVER—Diagnosis, Management and Prevention—Milton Markowitz, A.B., M.D., Assistant Pediatrician-in-Chief, Sinai Hospital of Baltimore; Associate Professor of Pediatrics, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine; Pediatrician-in-Charge, Rheumatic Fever Clinic, Harriet Lane Home Service, Children's Medical and Surgical Center, The Johns Hopkins Hospital; and Ann Gayler Kuttner, B.S., Ph.D., M.D., Associate Professor of Pediatrics, Emeritus, New York University, Bellevue Medical Center; Visiting Scientist, Streptococcal Disease Laboratory, Sinai Hospital of Baltimore. With a special chapter on Community Health Services by Leon Gordis, A.B., M.D., Field Officer, Heart Disease Control Program, U.S. Public Health Service; Fellow in Pediatrics, Sinai Hospital and The Johns Hopkins Hospital. This is Volume II in the Series: Major Problems in Clinical Pediatrics—Alexander J. Schaffer, Consulting Editor. W. B. Saunders Company, Philadelphia and London, 1965. 242 pages, \$7.50.

This is the second volume of a series of publications by W. B. Saunders Company entitled, "Major Problems in Clinical Pediatrics." This treatise on rheumatic fever maintains the high level of quality set by its predecessor, Mary Ellen Avery's "The Lung and its Disorders in the Newborn Infant." Ann Kuttner, a physician and microbiologist, has had a lifetime of experience with rheumatic fever and the streptococcus—both at the bedside and in the laboratory. Her co-author, Dr. Milton Markowitz, heads the rheumatic fever program for children at Johns Hopkins Hospital. Between them, they have produced an authoritative, very much up to date and readable monograph.

They start with a discussion of the changing pattern of rheumatic fever, followed by chapters on the biology of the streptococcus and the etiology and pathogenesis of rheumatic fever. Several chapters are devoted to the clinical and laboratory manifestations of the disease, as well as pitfalls of differential diagnosis. The section on therapy gives a clear presentation of the evidence provided by the several studies which compare aspirin and steroids, as well as the authors' personal recommendations. The subject of chronic rheumatic heart disease and its complications is covered briefly but very adequately. The final chapter by Leon Gordis, entitled, "Community Health Services," deals with the public health aspects

of rheumatic fever control and prevention, and includes a number of official statements and recommendations by various health agencies. Some 500 well selected and current references are provided in the bibliography.

With the decreased incidence of rheumatic fever many physicians do not see this disease often enough to maintain a high level of competence in this area. This excellent volume is recommended to practicing physicians, house officers, and medical students as a valuable refresher in this area of medicine.

MOSES GROSSMAN, M.D.

* * *

Tracy's THE DOCTOR AS A WITNESS—Second Edition—William J. Curran: LL.M., S.M. Hyg., Edward R. Utley Professor of Legal Medicine and Director, Law-Medicine Institute, Boston University. W. B. Saunders Company, Philadelphia, 1965. 196 pages, \$5.75.

In our litigious State this new edition will be dull but necessary reading for many physicians. There are 11 chapters, ranging from the elementary to the highly technical in matters forensic. The fact that trial law is a matter of emotion-manipulation and fact-obfuscation is not concealed.

There is advice for the different types of specialist before and on the witness stand. There is discussion of evaluation of disability in other than Workmen's Compensation cases.

The author goes into the use of various devices such as slides, movies, roentgenograms and so forth in the courtroom. He does not mention the late and admirable San Mateo County Judge who refused to allow any roentgenograms in court. The latter observed that the average jurymen was not competent to interpret them and that he would be much better informed to read or listen to the radiologist's report.

Each of the chapters contains a list of recommended reading and references. These alone will probably repay many physicians the modest cost of this convenient volume.

L. HENRY GARLAND, M.D.

* * *

THE PEDIATRIC PATIENT 1965—Sarah R. Gustafson, Ph.D., Director, Department of Medical Literature, Hoffmann-La Roche Inc., Nutley, New Jersey, Coordinating Editor; and David Baird Coursin, M.D., F.A.A.P., Director of Research, Research Institute, St. Joseph's Hospital, Lancaster, Pennsylvania, Consulting Editor. J. B. Lippincott Company, Philadelphia, 1965. 216 pages, \$6.00.

This is the third of what is becoming established as an annual volume prepared by Drs. Sarah Gustafson and David Coursin. In addition to being sold, these books are widely distributed among physicians by the sales representatives of Hoffmann-La Roche. The topics selected are of current interest and different from those covered in the previous two years. The references are generally up to and including the 1963 literature with a few 1964 references. The chapters are very well done particularly considering that each was not written by an expert in the field.

The opening section is "The New Immunology." This is a good review of the modern concept of immunology with a clinical section on autoimmune diseases. Other chapters include allergy, the newborn, hormonal disorders, vision, adolescence and new syndromes.

This little book can be perused rapidly and will provide the busy practitioner who has not been able to read his pediatric journals as much as he might have liked with a bird's-eye view of the new concepts and developments in the areas covered here.

MOSES GROSSMAN, M.D.